



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/855,875      | 05/15/2001  | Jeremy H. Brown      | 0050.2010-002       | 1485             |

7590 01/23/2003

James M. Smith, Esq.  
HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C.  
Two Militia Drive  
Lexington, MA 02421-4799

EXAMINER

MCLEAN MAYO, KIMBERLY N

|          |              |
|----------|--------------|
| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|

2187

DATE MAILED: 01/23/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/855,875

Applicant(s)

BROWN ET AL.

Examiner

Kimberly N. McLean-Mayo

Art Unit

2187

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 May 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 May 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 6.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. The enclosed detailed action is in response to the Drawings, Preliminary Amendment and Information Disclosure Statement submitted on August 20, 2001 and the Application submitted on May 15, 2001.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wooten (USPN: 5,832,299).

Regarding claims 1, 5-10, 14-19, 23-28 and 32-40, Wooten discloses a data processing system comprising memory (Figure 1, Reference 102); and a pointer to a location in the memory (Figure 4, comprised of References 402, 404 and bit G of Reference 406), the pointer comprising a block length field defining a block size (bit G in Figure 4, Reference 406; C 10, L 63-66); a length field defining a number of blocks in a segment of memory (Figure 4, Reference 404; C 10, L 63-66); an address pointing into the segment of memory (Figure 4, Reference 402); and a finger field which denotes a block of the segment of memory into which the address points (offset portion of the base address).

Art Unit: 2187

Regarding claims 2, 11, 20 and 29, Wooten teaches the pointer to a location in memory further comprising a permission field which indicates how a process may access data within the segment of memory (Figure 4, References 406 – AVL, P, DPL, S, TYPE and A; C 10, L 51-52).

Regarding claims 3-4, 12-13, 21-22 and 30-31, Wooten discloses the pointer to a location in memory further comprising a capability field which identifies the pointer to a location in memory as a capability pointer having bounds and permission defined therein, which bounds the segment of memory to the number of blocks indicated by the length field, each block of size  $2^B$  where B is a value defined in the block field (Figure 4, Reference 400).

### *Conclusion*

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Egolf et al. – USPN : 6,480,845 – segment descriptor – Figure 8.

Fabry – Communications of the ACM, July 1974, Volume 17, Number 7, “Capability-Based Addressing”.

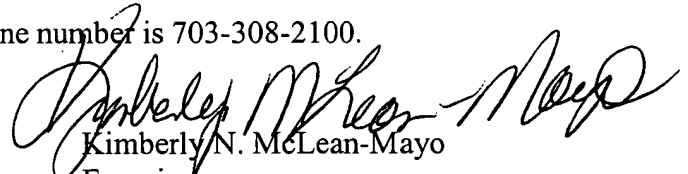
Lai – USPN: 5,956,751 – memory segmentation.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kimberly N. McLean-Mayo whose telephone number is 703-308-9592. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (9:00 - 6:30) First Friday Off.

Art Unit: 2187

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Do Yoo can be reached on 703-308-4908. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-7329 for regular communications and 703-746-7240 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-2100.

  
Kimberly N. McLean-Mayo  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2187

KNM

January 17, 2003